

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed April 8, 2008. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-23 remain in this application, where claims 1 and 19-20 are independent.

By means of the present amendment, claims 2-3 and 9 have been amended for non-statutory reasons, such as for better form. Claims 2-3 and 9 were not made in order to address issues of patentability and Applicant respectfully reserves all rights under the Doctrine of Equivalents.

In the Office Action, claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over WO 02/37411 (Liess) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,525,677 (Printzis). It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-23 are patentable over Liess and Printzis for at least the following reasons.

Liess is directed to an optical input device for measuring finger movement along a window 12 shown in FIG 5a. As shown in FIG

15a, fibers 72, 73 and 74 are optically coupled to diode lasers 3, 5 and 7. As correctly noted on page 3, second paragraph of the Office Action, Liess does not disclose or suggests any paths that include mirrors. Printzis is cited in an attempt to remedy the deficiencies in Liess.

Printzis shows in FIG 5 an optical keypad 400 having a laser source 402 as well as column and row of optical sensors 410, 412. As clearly shown in FIG 5, each key has several path associated therewith, such as three paths per key. For example, the key labeled 1, has associated therewith a vertical path, a horizontal path and a third path at a 45° angle.

In stark contrast, the present invention as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claims 19-20, amongst other patentable elements recites (illustrative emphasis provided):

wherein each key of the optical keyboard along said at least two paths is associated with only a single path of said at least two paths.

Each key (along a path of a measuring beam) being associated with only a single path of a measuring beam is nowhere disclosed or suggested in Liess, Printzis, and combination thereof. Rather,


Printzis discloses that each key has three associated paths.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that independent claims 1 and 19-20 be allowed. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-18 and 21-23 should also be allowed at least based on their dependence from independent claims 1 and 19-20 as well as their individually patentable elements.

In addition, Applicant denies any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicant reserves the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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